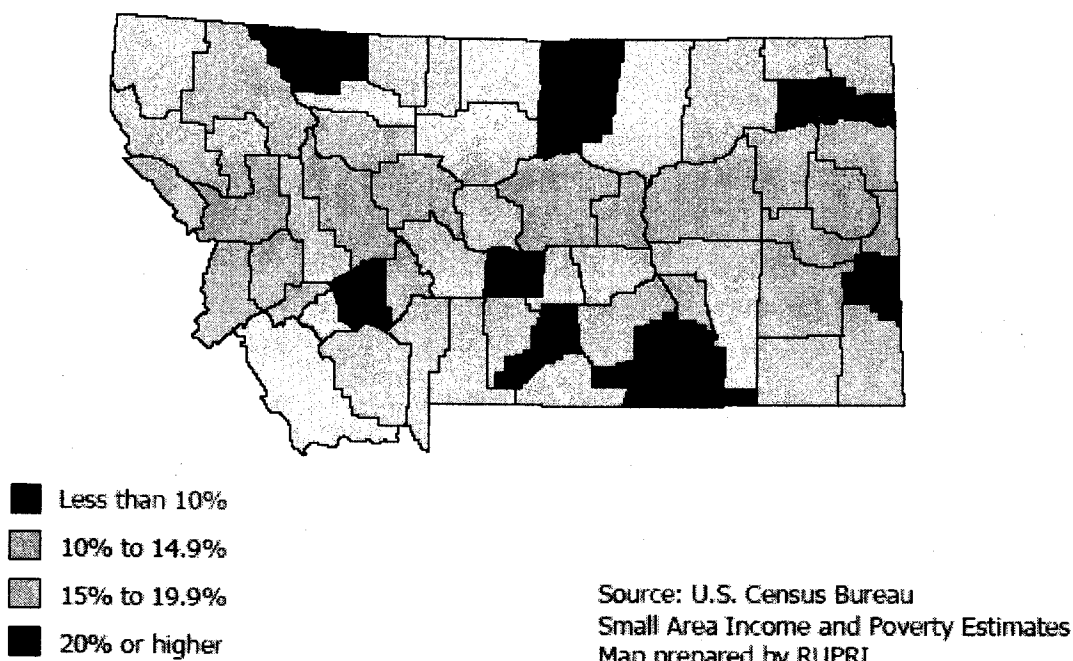
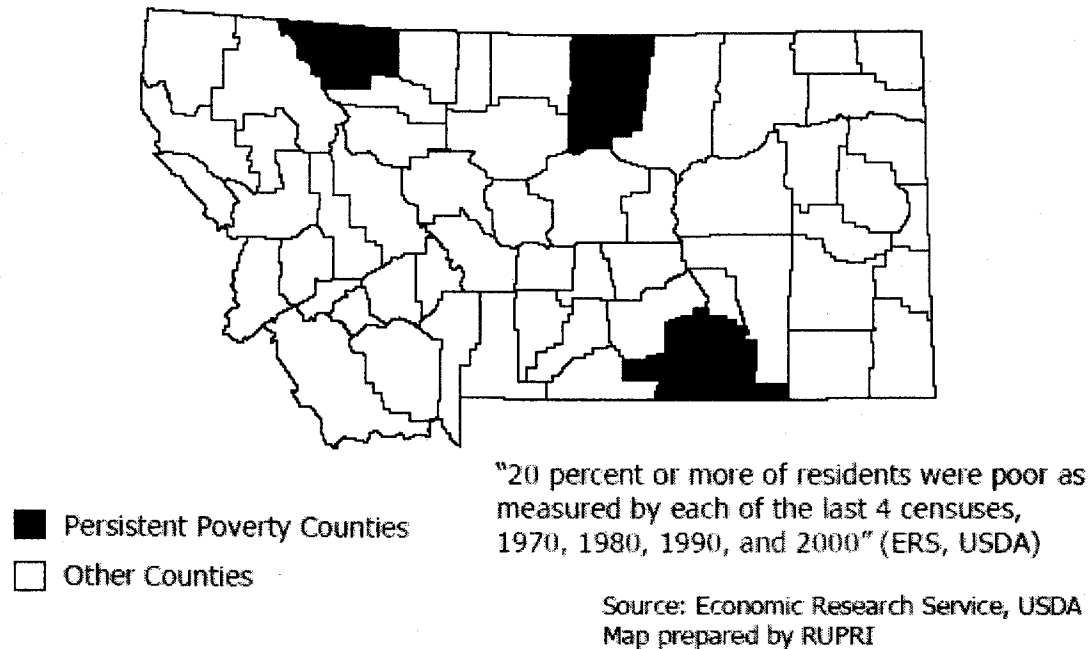


Percent of Population in Poverty, 2003



The Census Bureau Estimates in 2003 the poverty rate was 12.5 percent in the U.S. and 14.2 percent in Montana. The poverty rate in Montana counties ranged from 9.2 percent in Jefferson County to 26.2 percent in Roosevelt County. Five Montana counties had poverty rates exceeding 20 percent in 2003, all of them nonmetro.

ERS County Typology: Persistent Poverty Counties



ERS defines persistent poverty counties as those counties with poverty rates of 20 percent or more in each decennial census from 1970 through 2000. Nationally, 386 counties are persistent poverty counties, and three are located in Montana. All three Montana persistent poverty counties are nonmetro (Glacier, Blaine, and Big Horn Counties).